

# **California National Guard**

## **Fact Sheet**

**As of 07 Sep 2005, 9:00am**

- At the direction of Governor Schwarzenegger, the California National Guard and Air National Guard has established Joint Task Force (JTF) California and has deployed 739 soldiers and airmen in support of hurricane Katrina relief operations in and around the affected areas in Louisiana.
- JTF California is Commanded by COL Scott Johnson and is comprised of soldiers from the following units:
  - Headquarters, Air National Guard, Sacramento
  - 100<sup>th</sup> Joint Combat Support Command, National Guard, Fairfield
  - 69<sup>th</sup> Press Camp Headquarters, National Guard, Fairfield
  - 2/185<sup>th</sup> Armor Battalion, National Guard, San Diego
  - 240<sup>th</sup> Signal Battalion, National Guard, Compton
  - 640<sup>th</sup> Military Intelligence Battalion, Air National Guard, Long Beach
  - 870 Military Police Company, National Guard, Pittsburg
  - 118<sup>th</sup> Maintenance Company, National Guard, Stockton
  - A/5/19<sup>th</sup> Special Forces, Air National Guard, Redwood City
  - Counter Drug, National Guard, Sacramento
  - 129<sup>th</sup> Rescue Wing, Air National Guard, Mountain View
    - 131<sup>st</sup> Medical Squadron
  - 144<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing, Air National Guard, Fresno
  - 146<sup>th</sup> Air Lift Wing, Air National Guard, Channel Islands
  - 163<sup>rd</sup> Air Refueling Wing, CA Air National Guard, March Air Force Base
  - 162<sup>nd</sup> Combat Communications Group, Air National Guard, North Highlands
    - 147<sup>th</sup> Combat Communications Squadron, Air National Guard, San Diego
    - 149<sup>th</sup> Combat Communications Squadron, Air National Guard, North Highlands
    - 222<sup>nd</sup> Combat Communications Squadron, Air National Guard, Costa Mesa
    - 261<sup>st</sup> Combat Communications Squadron, Air National Guard, Van Nuys
- The deployed California National Guard soldiers and airmen are working in conjunction with Louisiana National Guard and local authorities.
- The soldiers and airmen are performing a wide array of security and humanitarian support missions, to include, support to local law enforcement agencies, communications, logistics and other humanitarian relief support in the areas of the Louis Armstrong International Airport, the area of New Orleans Parrish and at the Belle Chasse Naval Air Station.
- In addition to the soldiers and airmen, California has also deployed four IC4U (Incident Commander's Command, Control and Communications) systems in support of the communication needs of the mission.
- Three additional IC4U systems have been requested and are being deployed to the affected area.

- The IC4U is a military vehicle outfitted to perform as an in the field Commander's communication tool.
- The soldiers and airmen are scheduled to deploy for a period of about 10 days, but may be needed longer depending on their missions.
- These soldiers and airmen have left their own families, homes and jobs on a moments notice to help those in need in the affected areas. They are citizens helping citizens.
- California National Guard soldiers and airmen are operating under an agreement between CA Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger and LA Gov. Kathleen Babineaux Blanon.
- This agreement gives the California National Guard soldiers and airmen the same powers, duties, rights, privileges, and immunities as members of the National Guard of Louisiana.
- California National Guard soldiers and airmen are operating under strict rules governing the use of force as determined by the Louisiana National Guard. These rules on the use of force always include using minimum force necessary with every soldier's right to self-defense.
- The California National Guard is fully capable of providing ongoing support to hurricane Katrina relief missions, maintain its support of contingency operations in Afghanistan, Iraq, Kosovo and other locations around the world, and still be available and ready to respond to a potential emergency in California, should one arise.
- Currently, more than 12,300 soldiers and airmen of the California National Guard are available if needed.